(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to modify the rule so as to allow registration officers to accept or record also the admission of the execution of documents of members of the same house other than those on whose requisition these officers are allowed to attend at private residences?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Representations to this effect have been made to the Government.

(*b*) The matter is under consideration.

Collection of Sanskrit Manuscripts.

89. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Vaikam* cum *Ettumanur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether any list of the manuscript copies obtained by the Curator has been preserved in his office or published by him, and, if so, whether any such list is available to the public;

(*b*) what the total number of the manuscripts collected by the Curator from the public is; and

(*c*) whether any of the manuscripts collected by the Curator has been returned to the owners thereof, and, if so, how many manuscripts have been so returned?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) A list is available and will be supplied to the member.

(*b*) 1312.

(*c*) 371.

Malayalam Pandit in the Curator's Office.

90. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Vaikam* cum *Ettumanur*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any Pandit on the Curator's staff who has any knowledge of Malayalam literature?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The attention of the member is invited to the answer furnished to question No. 39 (*d*) asked by Mr. V. Kunjukrishna Pillai at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 22nd November, 1922.

Irregularities in the Curator's Office.

91. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Vaikam* cum *Ettumanur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether it is a fact that copies of rare and valuable manuscripts collected at Government cost have been sold to foreign libraries and institutions by some of the Pandits on the Curator's staff; and, if so, whether the Curator is aware of any such transaction; and

(*b*) whether the Curator is allowed to undertake work on behalf of other States like Baroda and whether any such instance has been brought to the notice of the Government?

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[Mr. S. Parameswara Aiyar.]

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The Curator says that no copies of the manuscripts of his office have been sold by any Pandit on his staff. At the request of some institutions such as the Madras Government Oriental Manuscripts Library, the Calcutta University and such others as are engaged in the revival of Sanskrit learning, copies of a few manuscripts have been made at their cost and supplied to them.

(*b*) The Curator has used his spare time in editing a rare work on *silpasastra* the manuscripts of which were sent to him by the Government of His Highness the Gaekwar of Baroda. He says that he had the oral permission of the late Dewan Mr. M. Krishnan Nair to do this.

Touring Work of the Curator.

92. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Vaikam* cum *Ettumanur*): Will the Government be pleased to state for how many days the Curator for the publication of Sanskrit Manuscripts was on circuit in 1097?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Curator did not do any touring during 1097.

Copyright of Commentary on Kautilya's Arthasastra.

93. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Vaikam* cum *Ettumanur*) Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Curator for the publication of Sanskrit Manuscripts has applied for the copyright of a commentary on Kautilya's *Arthasastra*; and

(*b*) whether the Government have made a gift to the Curator of five hundred copies of Kautilya's *Arthasastra*?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) 250 copies of the book are to be given to Mr. Ganapati Sastri free of cost. 250 copies more of the book are to be printed in the Government Press and supplied to him, the quantity of paper required for the purpose being supplied by him and the striking and binding charges being also borne by him.

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